

To: Bohan, Suzanne[bohan.suzanne@epa.gov]; Madigan, Andrea[Madigan.Andrea@epa.gov]
From: Ward, W. Robert
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 6:03:00 PM
Subject: Fwd: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Please do not reply to all in any response to my last message. My last message was intended only for the two of you. Thanks!

W. Robert Ward
Regional Counsel
Region 8
Confidential - Privileged

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ward, W. Robert" <Ward.Robert@epa.gov>
Date: August 12, 2015 at 11:48:35 AM MDT
To: "Bohan, Suzanne" <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>, "Madigan, Andrea" <Madigan.Andrea@epa.gov>, "fyip@cdc.gov" <fyip@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

FYI

W. Robert Ward

Regional Counsel

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region VIII

303-312-7100 (direct)

303-312-6736 (office)

This message is CONFIDENTIAL, and may contain legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, or believe you received this communication in error, please delete it immediately, do not copy, and notify the sender. Thank you.

From: Card, Joan
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:11 AM
To: Ward, W. Robert; Mitchell, Stacey
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Just saw this.

From: McGrath, Shaun
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:40 AM
To: Hestmark, Martin; Murray, Bill; Vranka, Joe; DalSoglio, Julie; Stavnes, Sandra
Cc: Thomas, Deb; Card, Joan
Subject: Fwd: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Please take the steps to comply with the email below immediately.

Shaun

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Administrator/Ex. 6
Date: August 12, 2015 at 9:51:16 AM MDI
To: "Blumenfeld, Jared" <BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV>, "Curry, Ron" <Curry.Ron@epa.gov>, "Enck, Judith" <Enck.Judith@epa.gov>, "Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>, "Hague, Mark" <Hague.Mark@epa.gov>, "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>, "McGrath, Shaun" <McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov>, "McLerran, Dennis" <mclerran.dennis@epa.gov>, "McTeerToney, Heather" <McTeerToney.Heather@epa.gov>, "Spalding, Curt" <Spalding.Curt@epa.gov>
Cc: "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Stanislaus, Mathy" <Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov>
Subject: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Good morning everyone,

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions.

If you have questions or wish to discuss a particular situation please reach out to Mathy.

Thank you.